

*The letter sent to the WT-E:*

To the editor:

In your latest story concerning a Gary Trauner press conference, it was written that I did not “immediately return a call for comment.”

I don’t want your readers to think I am unwilling to respond to Wyoming newspapers, so a few words of explanation are in order.

On the day in question, I was en route from Jackson to Pinedale at the time your reporter tried to reach me. It was 4:46 in the afternoon. Not all areas of the state have cell phone signals. I was in a void and did not check for messages until after finishing other activities I had scheduled, too late to return her call.

The response from Barbara Cubin’s office was attributed to a spokesman. No attempt was made to reach my campaign manager for a response to Gary’s press conference statements, nor for my position on deficit spending and the skyrocketing federal debt.

At the Republican State Convention in Casper over a month ago, I said about the federal debt: “It is growing by \$1.75 billion each day. During the time of my speech, our national debt has grown by about \$12 million.” Frankly, I don’t spend much time concerning myself with what Gary is saying right now. Barbara Cubin is my opponent but I’m running *for* the people of Wyoming, not *against* her. I provide press releases to the Tribune-Eagle. I thought it more accommodating to the press to provide written statements rather than rent a lectern at a motel and drag reporters out of the office to hear me read what I had written.

The current \$8.4 trillion federal debt is unacceptable. Whatever role Barbara Cubin has played in its accumulation, it has happened on her watch. During the first 142 years of recording federal debt, \$4.0 trillion accrued. In the past 14 years, a dozen of which Mrs. Cubin has been in Congress, the federal debt has more than doubled to \$8.4 trillion.

As a Republican, given the two choices for reducing debt, I prefer controlling the unbridled spending in Washington. Raising taxes is not the right solution.

*What the WT-E published, without disclosure about editing*

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